

REMARKS

Applicants concurrently filed with the present response a Request for a Three-Month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) with an authorization to charge the requisite fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a)(3) to Applicants' representative Deposit Account 13-2725. If for any reason the Request is separated from the present response, then Applicants authorize the Office to charge the above-noted Deposit Account to pay any necessary fees so as to maintain the pendency of the present application.

Claims 1-23 were pending prior to the present amendment. Claims 1, 5 and 11-17 have been cancelled. New claims 24-33 have been added. Claims 24 and 25 are independent claims based on original claims 1, 5 in part, 11-17 and the specification. The two independent claims are presented for purposes of clarification. New claim 25 has support also by Example 8.

Claims 1-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd para. It is respectfully submitted that the above amendment obviates this rejection.

Thus, for example, clarification has been presented in new claims 24 and 25 to resolve the problem with T, T' and T'' with regard to an isocyanate group and an isocyanate reactive group. T and T' are now defined as isocyanate reactive groups and T'' is defined as an isocyanate group. The isocyanate reactive groups are in part taken from original claim 5. In claim 25, T'' is an isocyanate reactive group based on the latter part of original claim 5. Claim 5 has been cancelled. In claim 25, a component (iii) has been introduced as the isocyanate group for clarification. This embodiment is shown in Example 8 of the specification.

The definitions of k and k' have been clarified by removing the word "about" and also limiting the upper limit to 5.

Optional component (c) has been clarified and limited to original claims 14 and 16 with the further limitations of claims 15 and 17 respectively and the element M limited to Si. At the same time, component (b) has been clarified and is defined by original claim 12 with the

limitations of claim 13. Claims 12-17 have been cancelled. Component (b) is different from component (c).

The objection to claim 3 is not understood. Nevertheless for purposes of clarification, the claim has been amended to read as the amount of solvent capable of dissolving between 0.01% and 5.0% by weight of component (a). See the specification at page 3, lines 30-31.

The use of the terms "partial condensation reaction" and "partial....condensate" in claims 19 and 21 is well-supported and defined in the specification at page 2, line 29 to page 3, line 3. See also page 13, line 33 to page 14, line 19.

The rejection of claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st para. is also deemed obviated by the present amendment for the same reasons as mentioned above with regard to the prior definitions of T, T' and T''.

The rejection of claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Moore et al., US 6,649,272 is not warranted in view of new claims 24 and 25. The '272 patent does not teach component (a) as presently defined. Withdrawal of the rejection is earnestly solicited.

The rejection of claims 1-12, 14, 15 and 19-23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by WO 02/30848 is deemed moot in view of the present amendment containing limitations from the original unrejected claims; i.e. claims 13, 16 and 17 as well as for the reasons above with regard to the definition of component (a) in new claims 24 and 25.


Reconsideration is respectfully requested with regard to the rejection of the now pending claims as allegedly obvious over WO 02/30848 in view of Brown('624) or Matsumura et al. ('369) or WO 99/03941 or WO 99/33927. The present invention provides novel compositions that address what is not addressed in the prior art and in the primary WO 02 reference, chemical stability, particularly with regard to alkaline products. These products are most often used in carpet cleaning. (See page 2, lines 7 and 8). Moreover, applicants have compared such stability to a composition from WO 02/30848. The Examiner is invited to look at Table 3 on page 24 comparing the compositions of the present invention to comparative example C2, which is example 50 from the WO 02 reference. In the last column showing data after 16 hours with

alkaline treatment, there is marked differences between 60/35 for C2 and the much higher numbers for compositions 1-19. In view thereof, any alleged *prima facie* obviousness has been rebutted by the comparative testing in applicant's specification. The Examiner's rejection is thus no longer warranted and should be withdrawn.

In view of the amendment and remarks contained herein, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes that a discussion would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

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